PUBLIC WORKS SECRETARIAT

Passes orders on the report of the Committee constituted to investigate into the causes for the breach of Sangenahalli and Thuppadahalli Tanks, Jagalur Taluk.

READ—

Government Order No. P.W. 7902-6—Irn. 53-7, dated 27th November 1953, constituting a Committee to investigate into the causes for the breach of Sangenahalli and Thuppadahalli Tanks, Jagalur Taluk.

2. Letter dated 25th January 1954, from the Chairman of the Committee, forwarding the Report of the Committee.

ORDER THEREON No. P.W. 13208-15—IRN. 5-53-9, DATED BANGALORE, THE 5TH MARCH 1954.

In the Order read above, Government constituted a Committee with the personnel noted below to enquire into the causes of the breach of Sangenahalli and Thuppadahalli Tanks and to furnish a report to Government:—

Sri L. Siddappa, B.A., LL.B., M.L.A. (Chairman),
Sri H. R. Guruv Reddy, B.A., LL.B.,
Sri C. R. Iyengar, B.A., B.E.

2. The Committee have, after conducting necessary inspections and after making enquiries, forwarded a report covering mainly the following matters —

(1) the circumstances that led to the breaches;
(2) the nature and value of the damage and the remedial measures; and
(3) the nature of the responsibility of those connected with the works at the various stages and other allied matters.

In a separate Note attached to the main report, two of the Members of the Committee, namely, Sriyuts L. Siddappa and H. R. Guruv Reddy, have dwelt further on the last-mentioned aspect of the mattrer.

3. In regard to Sangenahalli Tank, the causes ascribed by the Committee for the breach are:-

(1) inadequate foundation and keying of the bund well into the ground;
(2) imperfect consolidation and want of picking of the newly rolled surface to get a thorough mix of bund material to a uniform homogeneous consistency;
(3) poor and porous soil with which the bund filling material is made;
(4) want of water-proof consolidated gravel backing to revetment to afford it support and poor quality construction with rounded boulder stones without keying the face stone to the back; and
(5) quick rise of water level in the new lake.

4. The Committee have observed that the circumstances go to show that the damage was due to weak construction and not to heavy rainfall, and that the bund in its condition just prior to the breach was unprepared to receive and keep any water storage. The Committee have suggested certain remedial measures and have estimated the cost of making good the damage and bringing the tank to working condition at Rs. 1,25,000 (subject to variations in the light of the detailed estimates to be prepared).

5. The Committee have found that the causes for the breach of the Thuppadahalli Tank were :—

(1) Heavy rainfall and rapid filling of the lake;

(2) Very inadequate free board at the time of the breach;

(3) Incomplete revetment construction;

(4) Poor black soil with which the bund is made;

(5) Want of consolidation; and

(6) Want of fore-thought on the part of the Engineers at the spot at the time the breaches occurred.

6. In this case also, the Committee have suggested remedial measures and have estimated the cost of repairing the tank at Rs. 1,35,000.

7. Government agree with the observations and findings contained in the report of the Committee. Further action will be taken in the light of the Committee's report to assess the responsibility of those connected with the works from time to time and to take suitable measures in that behalf. The Chief Engineer is requested to take necessary action immediately regarding the remedial measures proposed by the Committee in respect of both the tanks.

8. Government wish to thank the Committee for the valuable services rendered by them.

9. The report of the Committee is appended.

D. K. SRINIVASACHAR,
Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department.

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